

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/041,875

Examiner

Frantz F. Jules

Applicant(s)

MAUTINO ET AL.

Art Unit

3617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/22/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 10-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chad C. Walters on 11/07/2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 9, the phrase --at the pulling front face section-- has been added after the word portion.

In claim 1, line 13, the phrase --the vertical direction comprising a general direction extending from a top of the coupler to the bottom.-- has been added after the word end.

In claim 13, line 9, the phrase --at the pulling front face section-- has been added after the word portion.

In claim 13, line 12, the phrase --the vertical direction comprising a general direction extending from a top of the coupler to the bottom.-- has been added after the word end.

In claim 15, line 10, the phrase --at the pulling front face section-- has been added after the word portion.

In claim 15, line 13, the phrase --the vertical direction comprising a general direction extending from a top of the coupler to the bottom.-- has been added after the word end.

REASON FOR ALLOWANCE

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2. Hawthorne et al, Metzger, Beatty et al and Elliot disclose various type of coupler knuckle casting having an enhanced bearing area comprising a tail section; a hub section, said hub section having a pivot pinhole formed therein, a front face section connected to said hub section, said front face section including a nose section and a pulling face portion formed inwardly from said nose section, a transition section joining said tail section to said hub section, said transition section including a top metal section and a bottom metal section extending toward each other. However, none of the references of record suggests a coupler knuckle, wherein an enhanced bearing surface area which includes a substantially flat portion at the pulling front face section disposed substantially in a vertical direction and which is substantially arcuate in a horizontal direction is provided, the vertical direction comprising a generally direction extending from a top of the coupler to the bottom in the manner defined in the instant claims 1, 13, 15 and in combination with other limitations of the claims. Therefore, claims 2-6, 10-12, 14, 16-19, depending therefrom, are considered to be allowable.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz F. Jules whose telephone number is (703) 272-6681. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph S. Morano can be reached on (703) 272-6684. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frantz F. Jules
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3617

FFJ

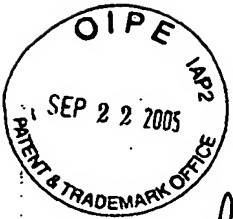
November 7, 2005

**FRANTZ F. JULES
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frantz F. Jules', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Attorney Docket No.: 076310.0103
Serial No. 10/041,875
Railway Car Coupler Knuckle
Having Improved Bearing Surface
By: Peter S. Mautino et al.

"REPLACEMENT SHEET"



Accepted
8/25
11/2/05

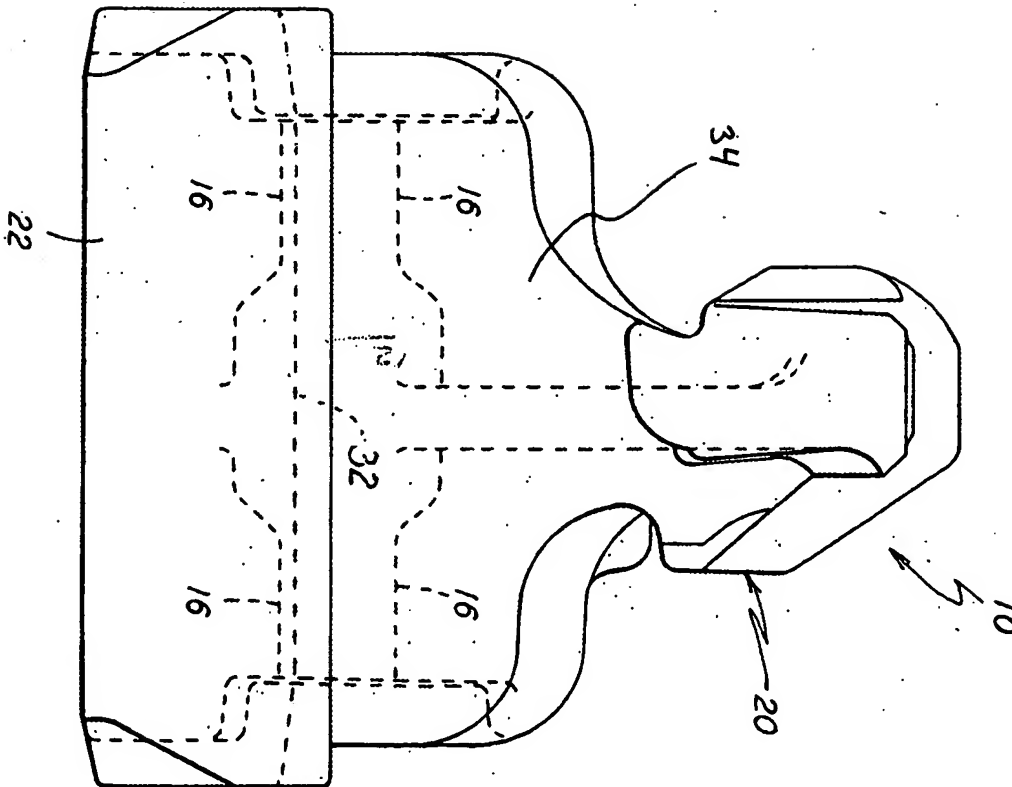


FIG. 2